

# Ruppert Is Elected Director, but Resigns When He Finds That Frazee and Comiskey Had Been Overlooked

## AMERICAN LEAGUE AGAIN IN TROUBLE

Frazee and Comiskey Are Refused Places on Board of Directors.

AGREEMENT IS RATIFIED

Spitball Pitchers Are Permitted to Continue Using That Delivery.

By DANIEL.

Petty politics, which it had been thought, had been banished from major league baseball, played no small role in the doings of the American League at its annual meeting in the Belmont yesterday. That the once insurgent trio—the New York, Boston and Chicago clubs—as represented by Col. Jacob Ruppert, Col. T. L. Huston, Harry Frazee and Charley Comiskey—will have a hard time in their effort to get a square deal at the hands of Ben Johnson and his loyal five was demonstrated in no uncertain fashion.

The fact that peace, as applied to the American League, is a chimera came to the fore in the election of the board of directors. Ever since the league was organized, twenty years ago, it had been the custom to follow a system of rotation in selecting the directors. In this way men who were off the board one year came back the next. The constitution provides that two men shall be chosen from the East and two from the West. This year it was the turn of Col. Ruppert, Frazee and Comiskey to come back on the board, along with Jim Dunn of Cleveland.

But the loyal five yesterday refused to follow precedent. They decided to accept Col. Ruppert but not the other two who were slated for election. When the result of the election was announced it was found that Frazee and Comiskey, who are in Chicago, had been left out and that Ruppert, Clark Griffith of Washington, Phil Ball of St. Louis and Dunn of Cleveland had been chosen.

Shibe Gets the Place.

Col. Ruppert promptly resigned and explained that if Frazee and Comiskey could not get a square deal he did not want to serve on the board. His resignation was accepted promptly and Ben Shibe of Philadelphia was chosen in his place.

With this splendid start toward "harmony," the meeting proceeded along rather controversial lines and broke out into records for duration of the annual session, as it was not until after 7 o'clock in the evening that the deliberations came to a close. The loyal five tried to pass a resolution whereby Johnson's expenses in fighting the Carl Mays case against the Yankees were to be paid by the league. But the insurgents, resurgent, blocked that and broke out again on January 12, at Chicago, for the joint meeting with the National League.

In the meantime the exact wording of the "peace terms" with the Johnson faction will be gone over in an endeavor to learn whether the lawyers who drew up that document intended that Johnson should be reimbursed for fighting against clubs in his own league.

Ruppert Explains Mortgage.

As the league did not inquire into the mortgage which Jacob Ruppert, Col. Shibe, holds on the Boston American League grounds, the Colonel volunteered some information on the subject. Johnson had announced that he would place the matter of the mortgage before Judge Landis, but it seems as if that action will not be taken now.

Of course, the major league agreement with the National League was adopted without debate or suggestion of changes. The board of directors voted a certain sum of money for the hiring of an assistant, who is to aid in the prosecution of the Carl Mays case, and who have been indicted by the Grand Jury in Chicago.

The league decided to abrogate that part of the changes in the rules whereby all spitball pitchers were to be barred beginning with the 1921 season. It voted to permit all the spitball flingers who now are in the circuit to continue using that darn delivery. This affects only six pitchers. No men not already certified as spitballers are to be allowed to use that delivery. The National League took action along the same lines the other day, but refused the matter to the courts, which is composed of Johnson, John Heydler and Judge Landis.

Opposition was expressed to the necessity of asking the National League for waivers on any players about to be released except men who had been drafted. The adoption of this rule by both leagues would mean a return to the old conditions.

Will Meet Here Always.

It was agreed that hereafter the annual meeting shall be held in New York on the first Wednesday after the second Tuesday in December. Heretofore it was optional with Johnson to select the scene of the conurbation, which usually was held in Chicago.

The major league session is to be opened on April 15, as the league ratified that date, which already had been named by the Nationals. Frank Navin of Detroit was re-elected vice-president, the pennant was awarded to Cleveland, and then the tongue weary and dizzy owners went out into the prohibition night.

The meeting came to a close last evening, so there will be no further sessions. Judge Landis will not come to this city to-day. It had been reported that he would be here and that the league would extend its convention a day in order to meet him.

As for Trades, a Fizzle.

In so far as even talk of trades was concerned the meeting was a fizzle. How are you going to put over any deals when Mack and Griffith are in there talking? Miller Huggins wailed. Huggins was flanked by Ed Barrow, Joe Kelley and Bob Connery, all of whom are quiet after the storm in the roomy chairs in the Belmont lobby.

Ty Cobb was expected in to sign a contract with Frank Navin as manager of the Detroit club. But Tyrod did not show up.

There was a report of a big trade between the Senators and the Athletics. How these clubs could make a big trade was not explained. Just who was involved in the deal could not be learned.

## Official American League Fielding Records for 1920

In the official averages of the American League for 1920 "Stuffy" McInnis, Boston, leads the first basemen in fielding with the splendid average of .996, ninety-one of his 1,677 accepted chances being assists. Pipp of New York handled 1,749 chances, of which 100 were assists, and Sisler 1,617, of which 149 were assists.

Eddie Collins of Chicago is first among the second basemen with a percentage of .976, and for the fourth time in his career in the American League he leads all in the number of accepted chances, this year's record reading 920.

William Lamont of Cleveland is second with an average of .976 at third base with 528 accepted chances, while Everett Scott is first among the shortstops with 826 accepted chances for an average of .973. This is the fifth consecutive season that Scott has finished first among the fielders of his position.

When Sam Rice accepted 478 chances—464 putouts and 24 assists—for an average of .980 he established a new major league record. The nearest approach to this phenomenal performance is: Max Carey, Pittsburgh, .988, 1917; Oscar Felsch, Chicago, .984, 1917, and Tris Speaker, Boston, .983, 1914.

This season Rice is far in advance of his nearest rival, William Jacobson, St. Louis, who handled 343 putouts and 18 assists. Felsch, Chicago, is third with 385 putouts and 25 assists and leads in percentage with an average of .981 being charged with but 8 errors.

For the eighth consecutive year Ray Schalk of Chicago leads in putouts among the catchers with 581. The "Big Boy" also set a new record the past season by working behind the plate in 151 games. Steve O'Neill of Cleveland wore the mask and pad in 148 games, while Ralph Perkins, the young star of the Athletics, gave the signals in 146 contests. Perkins leads the league in assists with 179, Gharthy of Washington being second with 148, O'Neill third with 128, and Seaver fourth with 111.

CLUB FIELDING.									
Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.	PC.
Boston	154	134	1	12	4175	2109	183	97	.971
New York	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
Philadelphia	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
Chicago	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
Cleveland	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
St. Louis	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
Pittsburgh	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
Washington	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
Philadelphia	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971
Philadelphia	154	134	0	9	4100	2036	184	97	.971

INDIVIDUAL FIELDING.									
(Fifty or more games.)	Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.
First Basemen.	H. S. McInnis, Detroit	98	383	26	1	997			
	J. H. Huston, Boston	148	136	91	12	996			
	W. R. Lamont, Cleveland	151	136	91	12	996			
	J. J. Hughes, Washington	124	1104	62	10	992			
	W. R. Lamont, Cleveland	151	136	91	12	996			
	L. M. Griffin, Philadelphia	126	1232	96	18	991			
	John H. Slater, St. Louis	154	1477	140	19	990			
	M. B. Egan, Philadelphia	154	1477	140	19	990			
	John Collins, Chicago	137	1446	63	15	988			
	H. E. Helman, Detroit	124	1248	89	19	982			
	T. C. Jordan, Chicago	124	1248	89	19	982			

SECOND BASEMEN.									
Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.	PC.
E. T. Collins, Chicago	154	406	471	28	976				
C. F. Brady, Boston	154	406	471	28	976				
Derrill B. Pratt, New York	154	406	471	28	976				
R. S. Young, Detroit	154	406	471	28	976				
J. O. Gideon, St. Louis	154	406	471	28	976				
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J. O. Gideon, St. Louis	154	406	471	28	976				
R. S. Young, Detroit	154	406	471	28	976				

THIRD BASEMEN.									
Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.	PC.
Oscar Vitt, Boston	154	150	18	4	976				
W. L. Gardner, Cleveland	154	150	18	4	976				
A. Ward, New York	154	150	18	4	976				
W. R. Lamont, Cleveland	154	150	18	4	976				
F. McMillin, Chicago	154	150	18	4	976				
Ralph Hinsel, Detroit	154	150	18	4	976				
H. S. Shanks, Washington	154	150	18	4	976				
James P. Austin, St. Louis	154	150	18	4	976				
James P. Austin, St. Louis	154	150	18	4	976				
James P. Austin, St. Louis	154	150	18	4	976				
James P. Austin, St. Louis	154	150	18	4	976				

SHORTSTOPS.									
Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.	PC.
Everett Scott, Boston	154	330	496	23	973				
R. S. Young, Detroit	154	330	496	23	973				
Roger Peckinpaugh, New York	154	330	496	23	973				
Ray Chapman, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
W. R. Lamont, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
Walter Gerber, St. Louis	154	330	496	23	973				
C. A. Risher, Chicago	154	330	496	23	973				
George D. Weaver, Chicago	154	330	496	23	973				
George D. Weaver, Chicago	154	330	496	23	973				
George D. Weaver, Chicago	154	330	496	23	973				
George D. Weaver, Chicago	154	330	496	23	973				

OUTFIELDERS.									
Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.	PC.
H. S. Shanks, Washington	154	330	496	23	973				
H. E. Helman, Detroit	154	330	496	23	973				
C. H. Sherrill, Detroit	154	330	496	23	973				
Joe Wood, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
A. E. Bailey, Boston	154	330	496	23	973				
Amos Strunk, Philadelphia	154	330	496	23	973				
F. Walker, Philadelphia	154	330	496	23	973				
W. H. Schang, Boston	154	330	496	23	973				
Wm. Jacobson, St. Louis	154	330	496	23	973				
E. E. Spahr, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
Harry Leibold, Chicago	154	330	496	23	973				
J. C. Milan, Washington	154	330	496	23	973				
Elmer Smith, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
Joe Jackson, Chicago	154	330	496	23	973				
F. Bodie, New York	154	330	496	23	973				
Robt. Veach, Detroit	154	330	496	23	973				
Alta Flanagan, Detroit	154	330	496	23	973				
Tyrus B. Cobb, Detroit	154	330	496	23	973				
C. D. Jamieson, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
F. P. Evans, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
C. D. Jamieson, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
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C. D. Jamieson, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				
F. P. Evans, Cleveland	154	330	496	23	973				

CATCHERS.									
Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.	PC.
Go. Dams, Detroit	154	27	0	0	1000				
B. Lynn, Chicago	154	27	0	0	1000				
W. Woodall, Detroit	154	27	0	0	1000				
Kay W. Schalk, Chicago	154	27	0	0	1000				
H. Ruel, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
H. Severed, St. Louis	154	27	0	0	1000				
A. Walters, Boston	154	27	0	0	1000				
V. J. Feinick, Washington	154	27	0	0	1000				
S. P. O'Neill, Cleveland	154	27	0	0	1000				
H. B. Hill, St. Louis	154	27	0	0	1000				
Edw. F. Gharthy, Washington	154	27	0	0	1000				
L. G. Nunamaker, Cleveland	154	27	0	0	1000				
J. H. Hannan, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
O. Stange, Detroit	154	27	0	0	1000				
J. H. Hannan, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
O. Stange, Detroit	154	27	0	0	1000				
J. H. Hannan, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
O. Stange, Detroit	154	27	0	0	1000				
J. H. Hannan, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
O. Stange, Detroit	154	27	0	0	1000				

PITCHERS.									
Club.	G.	P.O.	D.P.	P.R.	P.O.	A.	E.	PC.	PC.
Go. E. Uhle, Cleveland	154	27	0	0	1000				
Walter Hoyt, Boston	154	27	0	0	1000				
R. J. Nicholas, Cleveland	154	27	0	0	1000				
R. E. Mohr, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
C. W. Mays, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
Richard Kerr, Chicago	154	27	0	0	1000				
Edwin Rouse, Philadelphia	154	27	0	0	1000				
Urban Shocker, St. Louis	154	27	0	0	1000				
J. R. Rober, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
Herbert Haddock, New York	154	27	0	0	1000				
Jas. A. Shaw, Washington	154	27	0	0	1000				